

High Student Council. I wanted to be the val-
edictorian because Kaye graduated top of the
Class of 1979 at Selma High and then at-
tended Goucher College and Georgetown Law
School. I wanted to be a securities lawyer be-
cause Kaye was a top lawyer at the Securities
Exchange Commission. Like so many others,
I spent my life trying to live up to Kaye's
exceptionalism.

I will never forget the summer of 1984 when
Kim and I, as college students, lived in Kaye's
apartment and worked in Washington, DC
while Kaye was a summer associate in a Los
Angeles law firm. What a summer—Kim and I
knew we were truly grown—living in DC in our
big sister's apartment with a car. Being a re-
sponsible elder, Kaye left us a list of "Dos &
Don'ts" which we promptly ignored. What pre-
cious memories Kim and I made that sum-
mer—all because of Kaye. Those were the
days.

Kaye emanated a bright light that blazed a
path that will shine on in the lives of the many
people she impacted. She was beloved by her
family and she was the "Best Aunt ever" to
Kim's children—McKenzie and Madison. Kaye
met every challenge in life with the same
fierce determination and indomitable spirit that
helped her succeed in every endeavor she un-
dertook. She graciously assumed the mantle
of the matriarch of the Williams family when
her parents died and she was the devoted
caregiver to her loving husband Earl.

On December 7, 2016, that bright light
dimmed far too soon. Kaye Williams had many
more miles to go before she slept. Although
Kaye will be missed by us all, let us find com-
fort in the fact that she will forever live in the
hearts of so many people she nurtured, influ-
enced, and affected. Kaye would not want us
to mourn her but rather she would want us to
celebrate the extraordinary life she led and be
inspired by the example she set.

I know that I would not be Alabama's first
black Congresswoman had Kaye Frances Wil-
liams not been my "Big Sister". My gratitude
is immeasurable and I will seek to repay that
debt by ensuring that the path she blazed in
Selma, Alabama shall never be extinguished
but will continue to light the way for the next
generation of brilliant, beautiful and talented
African American women.

On behalf of the 7th Congressional District,
the State of Alabama and this nation, I ask my
colleagues to join me in celebrating the life
and accomplishments of Kaye Frances Wil-
liams.

IN RECOGNITION OF MR. JACOB
BENNETT MIZNER

HON. DAVID G. VALADAO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 9, 2017

Mr. VALADAO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to
thank Mr. Jacob Bennett Mizner for his service
to my office and California's Central Valley.

Mr. Mizner was born on July 16, 1994 in
Tulare, California to Kevin and Sharon Mizner.
After graduating from Tulare Western High
School in Tulare, California in 2012, Mr.
Mizner graduated from Fresno Pacific Univer-
sity in Fresno, California in 2016. While at-
tending Fresno Pacific University, Mr. Mizner,
a lover of music, was involved in Fresno Pa-
cific Concert Choir.

Mr. Mizner has been a Field Representative
in Kings and Tulare County, California from
June 1, 2016 to January 5, 2017. As Field
Representative, Mr. Mizner was known for his
friendly, optimistic personality throughout both
counties. He is a hard, dedicated worker who
was highly respected by his peers and was
able to create and foster connections with
constituents, business leaders, and public offi-
cials, all of which are integral skills of congres-
sional staffers.

Outside of work, Mr. Mizner enjoys music;
he is an avid saxophone player and enjoys
singing in choir, as well. Mr. Mizner is a mem-
ber of California Baptist University Choir and
Orchestra.

Mr. Mizner's time with my office came to a
close on January 5, 2017 when he left to pur-
sue an eleven-month mission trip with The
World Race to serve needy groups in eleven
countries in Central America, Asia, and Africa.
Knowing Mr. Mizner, his character, and his
work ethic, I have no doubt that he will
achieve many great things in his future.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues in the
United States House of Representatives to
join me in commending Mr. Jacob Mizner for
his public service to the people of the Central
Valley and wishing him well as he embarks on
the next chapter of his life.

INTRODUCING THE JUSTICE FOR
YAZIDIS ACT

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 9, 2017

Mr. HASTINGS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to
introduce the Justice for Yazidis Act, legisla-
tion that will expand mental health, physical
therapy, and other health services to religious
minority groups that have suffered the greatest
persecution under the Islamic State (IS).
These programs, though modest, are greatly
needed and will help victims of genocide begin
the long process of healing. In addition, this
legislation establishes a P2 Processing system
for Iraqi and Syrian religious minority groups,
allowing these groups and individuals to apply
directly to the United States for refugee status
without compromising the rigorous vetting
standards already in place.

The crimes committed by IS are horrifying
and brutal. Countless articles have been pub-
lished detailing the unimaginable abuse that
groups like the Yazidis have endured. Apart
from the mass killings, the beheadings and
torture, IS created a system of organized kid-
napping, rape, forced marriage, and sexual
slavery primarily targeted against girls from re-
ligious and ethnic minority groups. It's not hid-
den: they sell captives in the open, like cattle
at market, where militants come and go as
they please to select slaves as young as nine
years old. Once sold, girls and women are
traded among fighters for months at a time.
Fighters believe they are entitled—and obli-
gated—to enslave, rape, and forcibly convert
these girls. They even published a pamphlet in
December 2014 on how to treat female
slaves.

Thousands of women remain enslaved. For
those who have escaped or been rescued, the
road to recovery in war-torn Syria and Iraq is
daunting. The United States, through the De-

partment of State and the United States Agen-
cy for International Development (USAID) has
provided services and goods for these groups,
but the need continues to grow on a daily
basis.

Human Rights Watch recently documented
the severity of the need for trained trauma
specialists, explaining that "doctors need to be
better trained in examining women who have
been victims of sexual assault . . . otherwise,
the exams could be harmful and humiliating
for women and girls, and make them feel like
they have no control over their bodies—which
is what they felt when they were abducted by
ISIS." By dedicating specific resources dedi-
cated to providing access to trauma-informed
counseling, the United States can play a sig-
nificant role in rehabilitating these traumatized
and often suicidal survivors of IS.

Mr. Speaker, I hope this body will expedi-
tiously pass this measure. Doing so will reaf-
firm America's commitment to those around
the world suffering from great injustice.

CONGRATULATIONS AND THANK
YOU TO RETIRING SHERIFF MICK
EPPERLY

HON. BILLY LONG

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 9, 2017

Mr. LONG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to re-
cognize Sheriff Mick Epperly of Barry County,
Missouri, who is retiring after 28 years of serv-
ice in law enforcement.

Sheriff Epperly took his first oath as Sheriff
of Barry County on January 1, 1997. Now, 20
years later, he has become the longest serv-
ing sheriff in Barry County's history.

During his career, Sheriff Epperly has come
to be known as the "working sheriff." On the
job, Sheriff Epperly has consistently been an
active sheriff arriving first on the scene for
search and rescue missions, going into work
at all hours, even on weekends and holidays,
regularly going on patrols with his officers and
working every homicide case that the Sheriff's
Office has been involved in during his tenure.

I am honored to recognize Sheriff Epperly's
years of service and hard work on the job for
the people of Barry County. On behalf of Mis-
souri's Seventh Congressional District I ask all
of my colleagues to join me in wishing Sheriff
Epperly the best in retirement and thanking
him for 28 years of work in law enforcement.

IN MEMORY OF RIVERSIDE COUN-
TY SUPERVISOR JOHN BENOIT

HON. PAUL COOK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 9, 2017

Mr. COOK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to re-
cognize and honor the life of Riverside County
Supervisor John Benoit, who passed away on
December 26, 2016 at the age of 64. John
was a lifelong public servant, having spent 31
years in law enforcement prior to his first foray
into elected office in 1999 as a board member
for the Desert Sands Unified School District.

In 2002, John was elected to the California
State Assembly, where I had the pleasure of